

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-28. Canceled

29. (Currently Amended) A monomeric soluble form of a member of the CD83 family of proteins (monomeric CD83 protein) selected from the group consisting of i) a soluble CD83 protein consisting of amino acid residues 20 to 144 of SEQ ID NO: 2; ii) a soluble CD83 protein consisting of amino acid residues 20 to 145 of SEQ ID NO:2; iii) a soluble CD83 protein consisting of amino acid residues 1 to 129 of SEQ ID NO: 8; and iv) a soluble CD83 protein consisting of amino acid residues 1 to 130 of SEQ ID NO:8; wherein in each of i) through iv) one or more cysteine residues are substituted with a small and/or polar amino acid residue selected from the group consisting of serine, alanine, glycine, valine, threonine, aspartic acid, glutamic acid, arginine, lysine, histidine, asparagine, glutamine and tyrosine.

30. (Canceled)

31. (Currently Amended) The monomeric CD83 protein of claim ~~30~~29, wherein one or more cysteine residues are substituted with serine.

32. (Currently Amended) ~~The monomeric CD83 protein of claim 29, wherein the C-terminus of said protein comprises one or more amino acid residues derived from the neighboring intracellular domain~~ A monomeric soluble form of a member of the CD83 family of proteins (monomeric CD83 protein) selected from the group consisting of i) a soluble CD83 protein consisting of amino acid residues 20 to 144 of SEQ ID NO:2 and one or more amino acid residues derived from the neighboring intracellular domain at the C-terminus and ii) a soluble CD83 protein consisting of amino acid residues 1 to 129 of SEQ ID NO:8 and one or more amino acid residues derived from the neighboring intracellular domain at the C-terminus, wherein in i) and ii) one or more cysteine residues are substituted with an amino acid residue selected from the group consisting of serine, alanine, glycine, valine, threonine, aspartic acid, glutamic acid, arginine, lysine, histidine, asparagine, glutamine and tyrosine.
33. (Currently Amended) The monomer CD83 protein of claim 32, wherein said soluble protein consists of amino acid residue 20 to 145 of SEQ ID NO:2; and wherein one or more cysteine residues are substituted with ~~a small and/or polar~~ an amino acid residue selected from the group consisting of serine, alanine, glycine, valine, threonine, aspartic acid, glutamic acid, arginine, lysine, histidine, asparagine, glutamine and tyrosine.
34. (Canceled)

35. (Currently Amended) The monomeric CD83 protein of claim 29, which consists of amino acid residues 1 to 130 of SEQ ID NO:8, and wherein one or more cysteine residues are substituted with ~~a small and/or polar~~an amino acid residue selected from the group consisting of serine, alanine, glycine, valine, threonine, aspartic acid, glutamic acid, arginine, lysine, histidine, asparagine, glutamine and tyrosine.
36. (Previously Presented) The monomeric CD83 protein of claim 29, wherein one cysteine residue has been substituted.
37. (Currently Amended) The monomeric CD83 protein of claim ~~29~~36, wherein ~~more than one~~the third cysteine residue, corresponding to residue 100 of SEQ ID NO:2 or residue 85 of SEQ ID NO:8, is ~~has been~~ substituted.
38. (Currently Amended) The monomeric CD83 protein of claim 36, wherein the fifth cysteine residue, corresponding to residue 129 of SEQ ID NO:2 or residue 114 of SEQ ID NO:8, is substituted.
39. (Previously Presented) The monomeric soluble CD83 protein of claim 29, which consists of amino acid residues 1 to 130 of SEQ ID NO:10.

40-45 (Canceled)

46. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the monomeric CD83 protein of claim 29.

47-48. (Canceled)

49. (Currently Amended) A method for treating or preventing a disease or medical condition caused by the dysfunction or undesired function of a cellular immune response involving dendritic cells, T cells and/or B cells, comprising administering to the a person in need of such treatment a pharmaceutically suitable amount of the monomeric CD83 protein of claim 29, wherein said disease or medical condition is selected from the group consisting of rejection of a tissue or organ transplant, multiple sclerosis, chronic inflammatory bowel disease, Morbus Crohn, colitis ulcerosas, and insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus.

50. (Canceled)

51. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 50, wherein said disease is multiple sclerosis.

52. (Canceled)

53. (Currently Amended) A monomeric soluble form of a member of the CD83 family of proteins (monomeric CD83 protein) selected from the group consisting of a soluble CD83 protein consisting of amino acid residues 20 to 145 of SEQ ID NO:2 and a ~~soluble CD83 protein consisting of amino acid residues 1 to 130 of SEQ ID NO:8, each~~ having the additional amino acid residues Gly Ser Pro Gly at the N-terminus; wherein ~~one or more~~ the third cysteine residues are residue, corresponding to amino acid residue 85, is substituted with a small and/or polar an amino acid residue which is serine.
54. (New) The monomeric CD83 protein of claim 37, wherein the third cysteine residue is substituted with a serine residue.
55. (New) The monomeric CD83 protein of claim 38, wherein the fifth cysteine residue is substituted with a serine residue.